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AYGC > About

African Youth And Governance Convergence

Initiated and convened by [Youth Bridge Foundation \(YBF\)](#), the African Youth and Governance Convergence (AYGC) since 2009 has served as an important platform for grooming young people in Africa and beyond the continent in the areas of

- Leadership grooming
- Cascade of mentorship
- Community Impact
- Networking & Exchanges

2009
AYGC
ACCRA 2009

2010
AYGC

a grooming platform, participants do not need to have good research, writing and public speaking skills. What is required is the interest and passion to be a positive change agent in participants' community!

ginning from 2019, the AYGC would serve as a Youth Leadership Programme of the Youth Bridge Research Institute. YBF in collaboration with the Youth Bridge Research Institute (YBRI) has therefore revised the focus of the platform from serving merely as youth governance convergence to a more institutionalized platform of convergence of young people and their mentors under every year of mentorship to share experiences, lessons and build the capacity of young people. Consequently, the African Youth and Governance Conference will from 2019 be known as the African Youth and Governance Convergence. The renewed focus of the platform will confer fellowship status on participants and the criteria as well as responsibilities for such conferment are highlighted on the last page of this brochure. Affiliations to the AYGC would from 2019 be on two levels. First would be ordinary members and the second would be fellows.

nsistent with AYGC 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 themes, Youth Bridge Foundation (YBF) maintains that Africa needs to localize and own the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the harsh reality facing Africa demands a very intensive and multi-stakeholder collaborative effort to mobilize young people to construct a safe and prosperous continent.

The Thrust

COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY TO BUILD THE AFRICA WE WANT

With over 73% of the continent's population under the age of 35 years, Africa youth bulge presents both an opportunity and a challenge. Policy makers at national and sub-regional level are overwhelmed by challenges of unemployment, quality and access to education and basic services like health, water, etc. Appreciative of the fact that development and business thrive best in a peaceful environment, the implications of this challenge poses intractable threat to society: requiring collaborative efforts in addressing it.

The Convergence theme, "African Youth and Justice: Catalyst for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals", hints on the reality that Access to Justice is a thread that runs through all 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). AYGC, 2020 will explore the role Africa's youth access to justice and rule of law can play in accelerating progress towards each of these goals.

ACCRA 2010
ACTION"

2011

AYGC

ACCRA 2012
OUR VOICE

2012

AYGC

ACCRA 2013
TRANSFORM

2013

AYGC

ACCRA 2014
DEMOGRAPHY

2014

AYGC

LUSAKA 2015
AND DEVELOPMENT

2015

AYGC

JOHANNESBURG 2016
DEVELOPMENT
AND DEVELOPMENT

2016

AYGC

JOHANNESBURG

Lusaka, Zambia

Theme: *African Youth and Justice: Catalyst for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals*

Register Now

JOURNAL

HUMAN C

2017

AYGC

ABEOKU

THROUG

2018

AYGC

ACCRA 20

BEYOND

2019

AYGC

ACCRA 20

BUILDIN

2020

AYGC

12th AYG

Sustainable

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Initiated and convened by Youth Bridge Foundation (YBF), the African Youth and Governance Convergence (AYGC) since 2009 has served as an important platform for grooming young people in Africa and beyond Africa

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Create a sustained avenue for the youth – Osabarimba Kwesi Atta II

African Youth Should Not Become Modern-day Slaves – Prof. Assie-Lumumba

Africa Beyond Aid can be achieved through partnerships and youth mentorship – Obasanjo

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AYLS129_African Youth Charter_PDF



No Poverty



Zero Hunger



Good Health And Well-Being



Clean Water and Sanitation



Afordable Clean Energy



Decent Work and Economic Growth



Sustainable Cities and Communities



Responsible Consumption and Production



Climate Action



Peace, Justice And Strong Institutions



Partnerships For The Goals



Sustainable De

Excerpt of AYGC 2019, Accra Ghana

The 11th African Youth and Governance Convergence was held in Accra- Ghana under the theme, “PARTNERSHIP BEYOND AID”

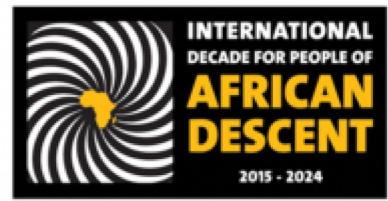


My experience inspired me to share ideas, to listen to ideas from other global politics. I have become a part of something that has given me a great opportunity to present my ideas to world leaders at the United Nations.

Ruth Kay Kangwe
AYGC Alumni, Zambia



Diaspora Partners



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Cancellation Of Physical Convergence Of Aygc, Zambia 2020 & Announcing Virtual Aygc 2020

9TH MAY 2020 AYGC AYGC 0

Dear AYGC Family, This is a difficult and unprecedented time, and we are all surrounded by uncertainty. We hope you and your families are safe and healthy, and adapting as well as can be expected during this pandemic. We also commend...

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YOUTH BRIDGE FOUNDATION'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19: AYGC 2020 IN FOCUS



23RD MARCH 2020

AYGC AYGC 0

Dear AYGC Family, For the past Decade Plus One (11 years), Youth Bridge Foundation (YBF) has remained committed to the building of a connected Africa and Diaspora youth; the building of a unique community of youth across borders; the joy of seeing...

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Create a sustained avenue for the youth – Osabarimba Kwesi Atta II

17TH AUGUST 2019

AYGC AYGC 0

Osabarimba Kwesi Atta II, the Omanhen of Cape Coast and the President of the Oguaa Traditional Council has called on African leaders to create a constant avenue to prepare young people for governance and leadership. He said that the potential...

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African Youth Should Not Become Modern-day Slaves – Prof. Assie-Lumumba

15TH AUGUST 2019

AYGC AYGC 0

Speakers at this year's African Youth and Governance Conference have urged youth on the continent to be proactive and start engaging in entrepreneurship programs, instead of complaining about problems found on their continent. Professor N'Dri Therese Assie-Lumumba, a lecturer at...

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Africa Beyond Aid can be achieved through partnerships and youth mentorship – Obasanjo

13TH AUGUST 2019 AYGC AYGC 0

Chief Olusegun Obasanjo, former President of Nigeria has stated that the realization of ‘Africa Beyond Aid’ can only be achieved through partnerships and youth mentorship. He said that the Africa Beyond Aid agenda can only be achieved through partnerships and...

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CHARTING A PATH FOR AFRICA BEYOND AID; GHANA HOSTS AFRICA AND DIASPORA YOUTH

31ST JULY 2019 AYGC AYGC 0

Africa has the youngest population in the world with about 41% of the people below 15 years old while another 19% are between 15 and 24 years. It is estimated that in 2055, the continent’s youth population aged 15-24, will...

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African Youth and Governance Conference, now African Youth and Governance Convergence (AYGC)

27TH MARCH 2019 AYGC AYGC 0

The African Youth and Governance Conference has been rebranded as African Youth and Governance Convergence (AYGC). This was announced by Prof Ransford Gyampo, Head of the Youth Bridge Research Institute at the launch of the 11th AYGC held in Accra...

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Zanetor Rawlings charges youth to be ethical leaders

11TH OCTOBER 2018 AYGC AYGC 0

Dr Zanetor Agyemang Rawlings, the Member of Parliament for the Klottey-Korley Constituency, has charged the youth, especially delegates of this year's African Youth and Governance Conference (AYGC) to be ethical in everything they do. She said, the youth must remember...

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African youth holds the key to the continent's progress – Mr Oteng



□ 5TH OCTOBER 2018

□ AYGC □ AYGC □ 0

Mr Seth Oteng, Executive Director, Youth Bridge Foundation (YBF), on Wednesday said the African youth holds the key to the continent's integration and progress in leadership and governance. He said the well-touted Pan African dream, economic liberation and the 'beyond...

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African Youth and Governance Conference Ends

□ 5TH OCTOBER 2018

□ AYGC □ AYGC □ 0

The 10th African Youth and Governance Conference (AYGC), held on the theme: "Mobilizing Africa's youth to build a continent beyond aid", has ended, with a call on governments to include the youth in the development and leadership processes. The conference, which...

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CHARTING A PATH FOR AFRICA BEYOND AID; GHANA HOSTS AFRICA AND DIASPORA YOUTH

AYGC



Africa has the youngest population in the world with about 41% of the people below 15 years old while another 19% are between 15 and 24 years. It is estimated that in 2055, the continent's youth population aged 15-24, will more than double the 2015 total of 226 million. However, the continent remains hostile to youth participation especially in the areas of substantive politics and governance

There is a massive age gap between Africa's youthful population and its leaders. While the average age of the African population is 19.5, that of their leaders according to a 2017 UNDP Report is 62 years. This is the world's largest age gap between governors and the governed, and it raises concerns about how well decision-makers understand the needs and aspirations of young people. This disparity can cause huge challenges such as political and social unrest, criminality and even armed conflict if not addressed. The ability of African governments' and other stakeholders to tap into the energy and

dynamism of the burgeoning youthful population will be an important factor determining whether the continent prospers or suffers in future.

As part of efforts to address the gap between the youth and government as well as create a sustained avenue to prepare young people in Africa for governance and leadership, the Youth Bridge Foundation (YBF) in collaboration with the National Youth Authority will host the 11th edition of the African Youth and Governance Convergence (AYGC) in Ghana from August 11 – 18 2019 at the Hill View Guest Centre Abokobi-Accra. Themed “Partnerships for Youth Development: Key to Building Africa beyond Aid” the meeting will host 120 young people drawn from 25 African countries and 20 from the diaspora.

The AYGC is a week-long convergence initiated and convened by YBF since 2009. It brings together the youth, experts in academia, government officials and public servants to analyze policy documents and deliberate on issues affecting the continent.

Speaking on the side-lines ahead of AYGC 2019 Professor Ransford Gyampo, the Head of Youth Bridge Research Institute (YBRI) observed that, AYGC 2019 will delve much into the practical ways of achieving the vision of Africa Beyond Aid through youth development, mentorship and leadership. He expressed the hope that this year’s meeting would also deepen collaboration between young people in Diaspora and their African counterparts in a manner that makes them useful to the continent’s quest for development.

Mr Seth Oteng, the Executive Director of YBF, stated that over the years the annual youth-leadership convergence had held discussion and made recommendations bordering on youth development and participation, which when implemented, would shape the African development “Consistent with AYGC 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 themes, YBF maintains that Africa needs to localize and own the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the harsh reality facing Africa demands a very intensive and multi-stakeholder collaborative effort to mobilize young people to construct a prosperous continent ‘BEYOND AID’, ” he added.

Highlights of the Convergence would include; Plenary Sessions with panel discussions on topics among which would comprise; “Nurturing Strong Inter-Generational Systems to Build Africa Beyond Aid.” and “Partnerships for Youth Development; Key to Building Africa Beyond Aid.”

Delegates at the 11th AYGC will be grouped into 11 workable committees and

be guided by industry experts to research on given topics ahead of the convergence General Assembly where delegates will propose and defend their motions for subsequent adoption by the Assembly.

Delegates will engage in research and share extensive knowledge on various topics under Health; Education; Diaspora Youth Affairs; Governance and Leadership and Employment and Entrepreneurship Development; Rule of Law; Gender Equality and Social Inclusion; Environment and Foreign Affairs to produce the 2019 AYGC Resolution Booklets based on delegate's committee works.

As part of this year's Convergence, there would be fellowship conferred on eminent personalities like the Former President of Nigeria Olusegun Obasanjo, the Grand Commander of the Federal Republic (GCFR) of Nigeria; President of Ghana, His Excellency Nana Addo Dankwa Akuffo-Addo; Honorable Tony Ince (Minister of Africa Nova Scotia Affairs, Canada) and Honorable Stanley Kasaongo of Zambia. Some young parliamentarians from Ghana and other African countries who continue to serve as role models for the youth in Africa and some qualified AYGC Alumni will also be made honorary fellows of the AYGC.

The occasion would also be used to mark the International Youth Day in collaboration with the National Youth Authority.

This year's AYGC has Joy News, Joy Prime; the Business and Financial Times and Ghana News Canada as media partners; Awake Purified Water and Promasidor as sponsors; as well as ANSA; Dalhousie University; University of South Carolina; Black Educators Association and Magichands as supporting partners.

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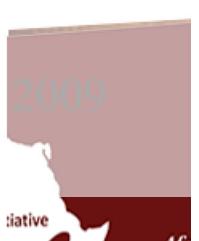
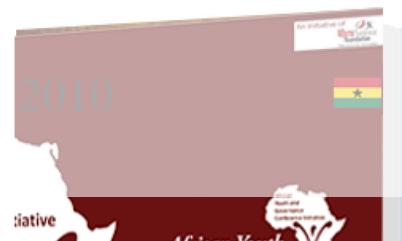
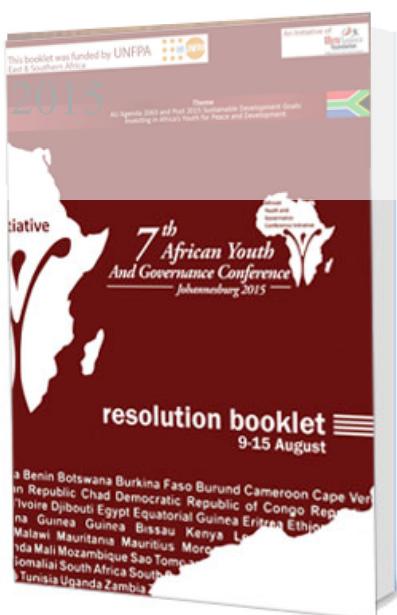
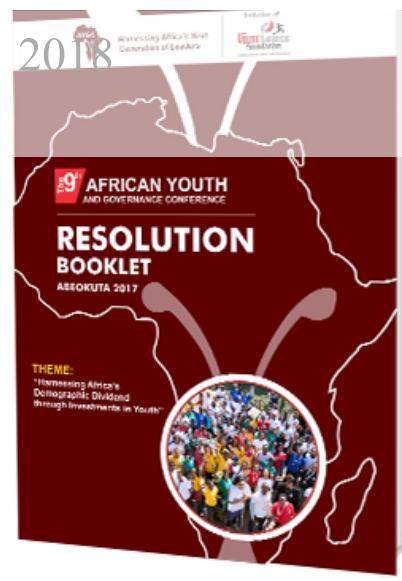
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2019



RESOLUTION BOOKLET 2019

THEME
PARTNERSHIPS FOR YOUTH
DEVELOPMENT: KEY TO BUILDING
A CONTINENT BEYOND AID





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Initiated and convened by Youth Bridge Foundation (YBF), the African Youth and Governance Convergence (AYGC) since 2009 has served as an important platform for grooming young people in Africa and beyond Africa.

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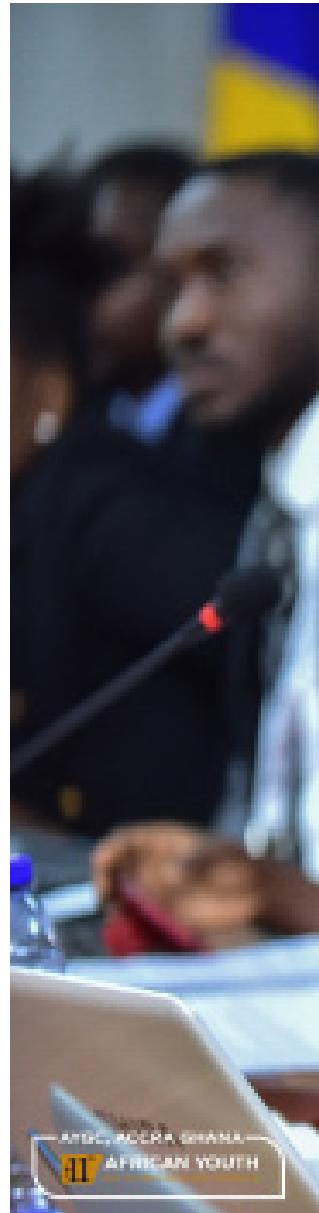
BOOKLET 2019

THEME
PARTNERSHIPS FOR YOUTH
DEVELOPMENT: KEY TO BUILDING
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August 2019
Youth Bridge Foundation
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PREAMBLE

The African Youth and Governance Convergence (AYGC) is an institution-alized platform convened by the Youth Bridge Research Institute, a subsidiary of the Youth Bridge Foundation, to address the gap between the youth and government as well as create a sustained avenue to prepare young people in Africa for governance and leadership. The AYGC serves as an important platform in grooming young people in Africa in the areas of:

- (a) Leadership Grooming**
- (b) Cascade of mentorship**
- (c) Community Impact and**
- (d) Networking & Exchanges**

The 11th edition of the AYGC was hosted in Ghana from August 11 – 18 2019 at the Hill View Guest Centre, Abokobi-Accra. Themed "Partnerships for Youth Development: Key to Building Africa beyond Aid" the meeting hosted 120 young people drawn from 25 African countries and the diaspora. Participants underwent several learning, mentorship and leadership training through various

sessions that also discussed the theme and other topical challenges confronting Africa and how they could be tackled with the active contributions from the youth. They had healthy interactions that afforded them the opportunity to network among themselves as well as establish bonds of relations. The 11th edition of the AYGC was also used as the occasion to confer fellowship status on key individuals who had over the years contributed to youth development in Africa and within their respective countries and communities. These include His Excellency Olusegun Obasanjo, former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Minister Torny Ince, a parliamentarian in Canada, as well as some policy makers, parliamentarians and youth development advocates from Ghana and other African countries.



MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE 11TH AYGC

Key among the activities undertaken at the AYGC was the deliberative session that discussed challenges confronting Africa, from the perspectives of various AYGC committees, and proposed evidence-based resolutions as well as solutions to the challenges.

The African Youth and Governance Convergence (AYGC) produce its outcome statements in the format of resolutions. The resolution is a formal statement of opinion proposed by the Convergence delegates on how to deal with specific issues. Essentially, resolutions are the goal of committee work and serves as a statement of resolve to progress in a specific matter outlined in the resolution.

The goal of the resolution is to inform and educate the reader in order to inspire them to take action approving the resolution. To do this, resolutions do two things:

- Identify and explain the problem that needs to be addressed (the introductory clauses); and

- Propose a solution that will address the problem as identified (the operative clauses).

A resolution has three parts: the heading, the introductory and the operative clauses highlighting:

- a) The problem that needs to be addressed and/or past action on the issue.
- b) Recommendations that are made to address the problems.

The written draft resolution submitted by a committee is a 'motion' that is debated upon, voted upon by the General Assembly and adopted by the deliberative body to become a 'Resolution'.



CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

In the spirit of the African Youth Charter, Heads of African States assert their claim to be "CONVINCED that Africa's greatest resource is its youthful population and that through their active and full participation, Africans can surmount the difficulties that lie ahead".

About 41% of Africa's population is below 15 years old while another 19% are youth between 15 and 24 years old. The continent's young population is mirrored in the East African Community (EAC) where around 45% of the 150 million people in Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda are below 15 years and a further 28% are youth between 15 and 24 years old. Africa is projected to grow rapidly, reaching 1.7 billion in 2030 and more than double by 2050, to 2.5 billion in 2050 and 3 billion in 2063. Africa remains the youngest continent with an averaged 72% of the continents population aged below 35years (the upper ceiling of youth definition per the African Youth Charter).

The continent, however, is yet to reap the immense opportunities of its rich resources including human capital

since the critical issues underlying the continent's demographics, especially those relating to the young generation have not been addressed.

The prolonged youth marginalization, low levels of education and capacity and high rate of unemployment in Africa must be considered a major source of economic insecurity that can lead to destabilization of any political and social system, hence the need for political leaders and corporate Africa to initiate sustainable processes for dealing with the unemployment burden.

The 2019 Convergence theme, "**PARTNERSHIPS FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT: KEY TO BUILDING AFRICA BEYOND AID**", hints on the prime objective of partnerships and broader inclusiveness in Africa's development agenda where youth are recognized as key players. Investing in Africa's youth cannot and must not be postponed.

As our modest contribution to building an 'army' of empowered African and Diaspora youth to build our continent, the African Youth and Governance Convergence



has since 2009 has served as an important platform for grooming young people in Africa and Diaspora in the areas of:

- (a) Leadership grooming
- (b) Cascade of mentorship
- (c) Community Impact
- (d) Networking.



President & Vice President of the 11th AYGC

Tinashe Kasweshi ESQ. (Zambia), Adesokan, Eniola Goodness (Nigeria)

We, youth delegates at the 11th African Youth and Governance Convergence held at the Hill View International Guest Centre, Accra-Ghana from August 11 – 18, 2019 under the theme "Partnerships for Youth Development: Key to Building Africa Beyond Aid", organized by the Youth Bridge Foundation;

Recognize that the adoption of the AU Agenda 2063 provides an opportunity for Africa to reshape its destiny;

Considering that with 7.2% of her over 1.3 billion population under the age of 35 years, Africa remains the only continent with a significant growing youth population; President of the Session

Recognizing that Africa's current demographic dynamics (growing youth population) presents both threats and opportunity for national and continental development;

Gravely concerned that one-third of adolescents of lower secondary school age (12-14 years) and more than half of youth of upper secondary school age

(15-17 years) are not in school. Africa is still home to more than half of out-of-school children of primary age (6-11 years) globally¹.

Alarmed by the continuous marginalization of the continent's majority – the youth, as well as persons with disabilities (PWDs) in accessing quality education and employment at all levels of society and recognition in governance and major public decision making processes;

Convinced that the coalitions of youth inclusive actors are needed to realize Agenda 2063;

Deplored by the absence of adequate opportunities to build the capacities of the youth to meaningfully engage in the development dialogue processes;

Gathered together as young people from the continent and the diaspora to deliberate on ten thematic issues through committees:



The delegates worked in the following Committees:

1. Committee on Education
2. Committee on Governance and Leadership
3. Committee on Gender and Social Inclusion
4. Committee on Foreign Affairs
5. Committee on Rule of Law – Justice, Peace and Security
6. Committee on Employment and Entrepreneurship Development
7. Committee on Health
8. Committee on Environment
9. Committee on Agriculture and Food Security
10. Special Committee on DIASPORA YOUTH AFFAIRS



RESOLUTION CEDU/201/2019

RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON **EDUCATION**

Reiterating the fact that education is a basic human right, and plays a key role in human, social, and economic development, as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child;

Noting with regret that educational levels in sub-Saharan Africa are low;

Recognizing that the neglect of quality education among the youth, who constitute 70 percent of the African population, could be catastrophic to the continent's quest for development;

Acknowledging with deep concern that the current curriculum of many schools in Africa, does not have a direct significance to Africa's technical and pressing needs;

Noting further that poor infrastructure and poor conditions of service of teachers clearly undermines quality education and renders teaching unattractive;

Taking note of the challenges confronting girl-child education in Africa, in spite of some successes and improvement across the world;

Affirming that the importance of Information Communication Technology as a useful tool to improve quality teaching and education;

Noting regrettably the challenges and near neglect of Technical, Vocational Education and Training (TVET) IN MANY African states in spite of its potential to help Africa fight the quagmires of under-development;

We:

Recommend governmental commitment to improving quality education on the African continent and enhancing access by making it free at the basic and secondary level, to all, particularly the girl-child, vulnerable and those in deprived communities.

Charge governments to partner with relevant stakeholders in ways that enhances quality education.

Recommend a radical shift from over concentration of education in humanities to a focus on TVET in order to ensure the training of employable students and nation-builders who have the requisite skills to work in the core areas and sector



of African development.

Suggest a drastic review of teaching curriculum to ensure that it delivers on the requirement of industry and the labor market.

Recommend that diaspora educational units be set at national youth centers across Africa to serve as the unit for transfer and receipt of best practices in education.

Encourage the use of alternative means of accessing quality education such as virtual/e-learning taking advantage of the growing internet coverage on the continents; non-formal training and education that benefits those who could not access formal education; Alternative African Educational Unit to educate migrants, refugees and asylum seekers on relevant educational areas to integrate them well in the country with a focus on security, employment, civic and culture; and Counselling and Guidance on career paths, reproductive health, mental health and issues of gender and child abuse.

Call for more sensitization and educational campaign on the need for young people to take interest in agriculture and increasing governmental support to the sector to make it more attractive to the youth.



1. Over one-fifth of children between the ages of about 6 and 11 are out of school, followed by one-third of youth between the ages of about 12 and 14. According to UIS data, almost 60% of youth between the ages of about 15 and 17 are not in school.

2. According to a UNESCO Report of 2018, over one-fifth of children, mostly female between the ages of 6 and 11 being out of school in Africa.

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Submitted by:

Margaret Blankson (Ghana), Koffi Wetí (Togo), Edith Zanou (Togo), Williams Adegoke (Nigeria), Deborah Sango Aseke (Congo), Franco Evodious (Tanzania), Ibrahim Hussein Bancie (Ghana), John Salem (Democratic Republic of Congo), Alberta Eyram Agbedozah (Ghana).



RESOLUTION CRLW/201/2019
RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON
RULE OF LAW- JUSTICE, PEACE AND SECURITY

Bearing in mind the intimidating and heavily congested set-up of the formal system of justice delivery, language barrier and the mystery surrounding court processes delaying the fulfilment of justice;

Guided by the Sustainable Development Goal 16 on Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions¹; and the AU Agenda 2063, and Aspiration 272, that Africa shall have a universal culture of good governance, democratic values, gender equality, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law;

Affirming the principles contained in Article 3 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights³, which states that every individual shall be equal before the law and that every individual shall be entitled to equal protection under the law;

Noting with regret the selective application of rule of law in Africa, particularly by the International Criminal Court (ICC);

Deeply concerned about the ignorance of institutionalised systems to address issues/challenges in the legal sector;

Noting with concern most formal and informal justice systems are dominated by men and the traditional system tends to apply customary or religious norms discriminating against vulnerable groups;

Deeply convinced that the pervasive nature of corruption leads to the diversion of resources from investment in education and professional training of the youth;

Taking into account the emphasis on punishment rather than rehabilitation and education in criminal justice delivery as well as inadequate correctional systems;

Recognising the use of young people as agents of violent conflict and excluding them in peace making and security;

Deeply disturbed by the violation of basic human rights of the citizenry, marginalised population especially girls, women and children;

We:

Call for the use of Alternate Dispute Resolution mechanisms to ensure speedy and effective delivery of justice while exploring informal and traditional



approaches to conflict resolution.

Suggest the simplification of legal language and procedures through innovative ways such as animations (Text books, comics, cartoons).

Recommend the need for the AU to work with member states to deal with the cultural norms that discriminate against young people and women through sustained sensitization and public education.

Call on the AU to work with member states set up the AU Court to deal with African issues and to halt the application of selective justice in Africa and to strongly advocate the respect of rule of law and due processes by all national and international organizations.

Further recommend formal education emphasising legal literacy in schools from lower to tertiary levels, as an integral part of the curriculum. The establishment of civic education clubs through the use of paralegals,

legal volunteers, social media and traditional media is highly proposed.

Propose that laws of individual countries be translated into various local dialects and disseminated through the traditional justice system.

Call on African leaders and governments to cease the use of young people as agents of violent conflict. We call on the youth to refrain from availing themselves to be used to fight the dirty political wars of politicians. We also call on the engagement of the youth in dialogue and other conflict resolution processes.

Call of African leaders to be mindful of the cost of corruption and its effects on the quest for national development and to implement proactive mechanisms that make it expensive for corruption to be perpetuated. The creation of independent regional anti-corruption bodies and effective coordination of their activities will be helpful as it will empower member states to serve as checks on each other.



Strongly recommend the confiscation of assets belonging to corrupt public officials and the initiation of swift criminal prosecutions as well as stiffer punishment against them. Furthermore, the justice system in Africa must also create spaces for correction and rehabilitation of culprits and shift from over-concentration on punishment.

Propose the setting up of resource hubs and youth centers equipped with the personnel and infrastructure for youth leadership training, guidance/counselling, mentorship and recreation as a way of proactively checking idleness among young people.

Strongly urge the implementation of other youth inclusive measures to counter violent extremism including strengthening religious leadership skills in youth engagement and community outreach to help prevent and counter radicalization; strengthening community-based policing and community-security force relations as ingredients for countering and preventing violent extremism; supporting the adaptation and scale-up of effective interventions in hot spots where

recruitment is taking place and targeting vulnerable youth groups; and learning from successful violence prevention efforts in Latin America and the Caribbean to inform youth peacebuilding initiatives in Africa.



1. The ICC was supposed to address the whole world, but it ended up covering only Africa, according to Rwandan President, Paul Kagame. All situations and cases under investigation or prosecution by the ICC are in Africa. Since its establishment in 2002, the Office of the Prosecutor (OTP) of the International Criminal Court (ICC) has investigated eight situations involving alleged violations of international criminal law. Each of these investigations related to situations in Africa, namely, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Uganda, the Central African Republic (CAR), Darfur/Sudan, Kenya, Libya, Ivory Coast, and Mali.

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Recognizing that millions of adolescent girls across many African countries are being denied their education because of discriminatory practices and inadequate governmental policies;¹

Noting with deep concern that sexual and physical violence is very common within the African home;

Saddened by the fact that more than 200 million girls and women alive today, have undergone female genital mutilation (FGM) in 30 countries in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia .

Noting with regret that women in the African Region are more likely to die from communicable diseases (e.g. HIV, tuberculosis and malaria), maternal and perinatal conditions, and nutritional deficiencies, than women in other regions;

Taking into consideration that more than 700 million women alive today were married as children and 17 percent of them, or 125 million, live in Africa;

Expressing dissatisfaction that while African women work 50% longer hours than men, the pay gap between men and women is very wide;

Noting the restricted women's leadership and political participation in Africa in spite of the Sustainable Development Goal 5 which emphasizes women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision making in political, economic and public life;

We:

Call on African governments to make education affordable by allocating adequate funding to increase accessibility for the rural girl-child and implement the policies regarding the girl-child education, as this will create a future that allows women to be equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to participate in all areas of decision-making processes, so as to contribute to policies that affect them.

Recommend the implementation of Affirmative Action initiatives that will serve to increase women's participation and representation in political arenas.

Call on the African Union to work through its member states to prioritize the implementation of programmes that addresses the cultural and patriarchal factors that contribute to violence against women;



develop actionable legislations that fully sanctions perpetrators of violence against women; provide counselling services for victims of domestic violence; and ensure women economic empowerment.

Advocate for the increment in access to health services by women in the most vulnerable areas, by allocating adequate budget to address health issues, as well as training and equipping more community health care workers.

Entreat African governments and development partners to sensitize their citizenry about the dangers of child marriage and implement severe sanctions against perpetrators.

According to the United Nations Children's Fund, in Somalia alone, 98% of female population aged between the ages of 15 and 49 had undergone the procedure. Parents in the diaspora too where it is illegal, bring their children to Africa to secretly undergo this operation and in rare cases have it done on their wards there in diaspora

Globally, about 468 million women aged 15–49 years (30% of all women) are thought to be anaemic, and at least half this number face iron deficiency, and most of these anaemic women live in Sub-Saharan Africa (48–57%).

In the 25 countries in West and Central Africa, about 41% of girls marry before the age of 18, this has been one of the biggest challenges in the region as it has enormous adverse effects on education, health, including sexual and reproductive health. Out of the 15 countries where the rate of child marriage is over 30%, 9 are in West Africa, with Niger having the highest rate.

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RESOLUTION C E E D / 201 / 2019
RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON
EMPLOYMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Bearing in mind that the African youth entrepreneurs account for more than half of the financially excluded, mainly because financial institutions and facilities are inaccessible and/or not affordable, (Global Young Voices, 2014);

Alarmed by a \$331 billion business financing gap for Small, Micro and Medium Enterprises of which the majority of the affected, are young entrepreneurs, (International Finance Corporation, 2016);

Noting with deep concern that Africa's educational system is theoretical, and fails to offer practical curricula (critical thinking, inter personal relationships, financial literacy, time consciousness etc) to prepare youth enough for the job market and to undertake entrepreneurial opportunities;

Noting with deep concern that the poor state of infrastructure or lack of infrastructure across sub-Saharan Africa is a significant obstacle to the growth of entrepreneurial enterprises, as it adversely affects cost of doing business, market access and business efficiency;

Deeply disturbed by the unreliability of infrastructure with only 38% of Afro-entrepreneurs agreeing that infrastructure provides sufficient support for new and growing firms;

Deeply concerned with the difficulty and unease with which new businesses obtain licenses and permits, trade across borders and entering new markets; bureaucratic bottlenecks, paying taxes (unfavorable taxation), and facilitating international trades to stay afloat;

Recognizing the unavailability of reliable data that accurately describe young people's aspirations, their challenges, environmental needs and employment avenues to inform which jobs to create and how they can overcome the obstacles inherent in establishing and running a viable enterprise;

Noting that young people are constrained by insufficient and industry relevant education and for a business career, holding back the pace of economic and social development;

Noting further that Young Africans are three times more likely than adults to be



unemployed and the growing young population (62% of sub-Saharan Africans are under 25) requires urgent action to provide sustainable employment opportunities so that young people become active participants in the future economic activity of sub-Saharan Africa;

Acknowledging that youth economic activity is concentrated within a limited number of sectors, with 64% of the youth in sub-Saharan Africa involved in self-employment or "vulnerable" employment (retail (urban street hawking, running micro businesses), subsistence farming, seasonal agriculture jobs, hotel and restaurant trade). Almost all (97%) of youth businesses in the retail sector are low-growth businesses where there is no guarantee of income or wage receipts, 54% of which offer employment to only the business owner;

Observing that 65 percent of low-growth business operators only have a primary school education while 80% of high-growth businesses have completed secondary, post-secondary or tertiary education;

Fully aware that own funding and/or funding from family or friends are the primary sources of financing for young people throughout sub-Saharan Africa coupled with difficult access to finance;

Noting with regret the artificial barriers, requiring work experience for entry level jobs inhibiting out of school youth employment;

Noting that Africa will create 54 million new, stable wage-paying jobs over the next ten years—but this will not be enough to absorb the 122 million new entrants into the labor force expected over the same period;

We:

Recommend that entrepreneurship be mainstreamed in academic and technical education at all levels, starting from primary education, in order to promote youth innovation and entrepreneurship culture,

Strongly urge the review of entrepreneurship education to include how to develop existing and low performing business instead of starting new vulnerable **employment businesses**.

Recommend that social entrepreneurship among the youth should be promoted.

Advocate that youth entrepreneurship through apprenticeship and leadership programs as well as provision of incubation hubs for youth enterprises should be prioritized.



Strongly recommend the establishment of an African Youth Bank that should be easily accessible and affordable for the African youth entrepreneur.

Request that public Private Partnerships that increase employment opportunities for the youth be encouraged;

Call upon National Governments in African Countries to abolish work experience requirements for entry-level jobs.

Recommend culture of entrepreneurship and national patriotism leading to youth engagement and participation in development processes should be implemented, including through national youth service programs.

Encourage training institutions across Africa to conduct skills need forecasting and the matching of training and education curricula with the requirements of industry should be prioritized. Workplace internship and mentorship programs to help youth to acquire skills and work experience should be implemented.

Encourage the AU to increase the regional integration between African countries and government to put incentives to young new entrepreneurs for at least 3 years.

Strongly recommends that the prohibitive costs, time, and bureaucracy associated with regulatory compliance to discourage the wide spread informality of business.

Encourage African governmental institutions in charge of employment and entrepreneurship to make available credible and reliable data on environmental needs and employment avenues to inform which jobs to create and how to overcome the obstacles inherent in establishing and running a viable enterprise.

Strongly recommend the merger and or partnership of small and vulnerable businesses and resources with the same sector to build viable enterprises that can provide greater numbers of employment on the continents and be internationally competitive.

Call upon African governments to accelerate the expansion of quality education with much more focus on higher education across the continent. This is directly linked to the establishment of high-growth jobs.

Encourage a close collaboration between governments and private sectors to create appropriate jobs for graduates and school



school dropouts in the informal sector since it makes up majority of the unemployment issues on the continent.

Encourage the intensification and expansion of YouthConnekt Africa, launched by UNDP and the government of Rwanda, to encourage youth-friendly policies, such as access to finance and skills development that match the needs of the market in particular countries to reach all African countries.

Further recommend the acceleration of work on the African Passport initiative and African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) to allow for labor and resource migration that creates African career paths for young people.

Request the restructuring of the National Youth Service scheme to move away from deepening regional youth unemployment crisis to focus on equipping the graduates with skills for working on the field to further prepare them for the job market and their entrepreneurial journey because it has the potential to equip them with strong civic skills and prepare them for employment and livelihood opportunities and serve as alternative pathway for young people to develop the skills and social capital

needed to transition to work.

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RESOLUTION CHTH/201/2019

RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON **HEALTH**

Recognizing that in 2017 Africa was home to 92% of malaria cases and 93% of malaria deaths according to World Health Organization (WHO);

Observing that out of the estimated USD 3.1 billion for malaria control and elimination in 2017, contributions from governments of endemic countries amounted to USD 900 million, representing 28% of the total funding;

Raising the concern that 300 million people in Sub-Saharan Africa still lack access to a protective insecticide-treated net, and at least 15 million pregnant women do not receive the treatment they need to keep themselves and their unborn babies safe from malaria;

Fully alarmed that Malaria is responsible for more than 450,000 deaths in Africa each year;

Regrettably noting that one of the lessons of the Ebola epidemic is the need to improve public health services which have suffered neglect for decades across the continent;

Seriously concerned that although Africa bears one-quarter of the global burden of disease, it only has two percent of the

world's doctors;

Taking into account inadequate infrastructure, health services, and the widespread lack of trained medical personnel;

Guided by the knowledge that the African healthcare delivery system is confronted with several challenges including well-trained inadequate healthcare professionals;

Gravely concerned by about lack of awareness about mental health, inadequate governmental attention to mental health on the continent culminating in limited resource allocation to the sector and lack treatment for mental health patients (on the average, about 70% mental health patients do not get treatment in Africa);

Alarmed by the fact that young people (10-24 years) and adolescents (10-19) continue to be disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS, especially in low to-middle income countries in Africa

Noting with deep concern that AIDS is one of the leading causes of death



among adolescents in Africa without decline;

Deeply disturbed by the severity of child mortality rates within sub-Saharan Africa due partly to the prevalence of preventable diseases (according to the World Health Organization, children in sub-Saharan Africa are more than 14 times more likely to die before the age of 5 than children in developed regions);

We:

1. **Propose** collaboration among governments, NGOs and CSOs of malaria-endemic countries in raising adequate funding for the control, prevention and elimination of malaria through provision of; protective insecticide-treated nets for especially pregnant women and their unborn children, intensive public education on malaria prevention, accessible and quality health institutions and functional sanitation programmes.

2. **Applaud** the efforts of UNICEF in helping to fight Ebola through a cross-cutting community approach and call for close collaborations among governments,

medical research institutions, and pharmaceutical companies to increase efforts in finding vaccines for Ebola.

3. **Recommend** increased fund allocation for building ultra-modern public health facilities for countries in Africa and the use of alternative cost-effective ways of health provision such as the e-Health and m-Health technologies to reduce the cost of healthcare. For example, in Kenya, mobile phone-based reminder systems have proven to be an 'effective and inexpensive' way to improve health-workers' adherence to malaria case-management guidelines (Zurovac et al. 2012).

4. **Encourage** the use of mobile health facilities in rural areas on the continent just as it is done in South Africa through the Mobile Services Unit (MSU) project which has served more than 30,000 South Africans in four provinces, the Camel Mobile Clinics in Kenya, Motorbike Ambulances in Kenya and Uganda to deliver healthcare to rural and remote areas of the continent.



5. **Highly recommend** that medical personnel in the countries' health facilities are trained continuously to efficiently meet the continent's health needs at every point in time.

6. **Further, recommend** that African and Diaspora medical personnel be encouraged to move back to their homelands and support provision of healthcare with their expertise.

7. **Strongly urge** African governments to mainstream mental health issues and increase efforts and resources towards mental health such as infrastructure, education, and training for healthcare professionals.

8. **Further recommend** that health care professionals specialized in working with people with mental health are made available in primary health care facilities across Africa,

9. **Call for** sustained effort in dealing with HIV infections among children and adolescents in Africa and making testing and treatment of the disease easily accessible in rural communities.

10. **Affirm** the need for intensified efforts in dealing with child mortality on the continent through resource and fund allocation.

11. **Encourage** African governments to take advantage of mobile penetration and the diffusion of technology to devise country-specific Health solutions to better treat patients, conduct research, track diseases, and monitor public health leveraging the already high mobile penetration rate on the continent.



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Affirming that leadership is on the African continent is crucial in the quest to tackle the developmental challenges of the people;

Noting with regret that corruption has gone from mere act of accepting bribes to a complete state of mind and way of life;

Acknowledging with deep concern the staggering wave of violence, insecurity, increasing crime wave, economic recession, coupled with the breakdown in law and order in many African countries;

Reaffirming that Africa's failures have come about largely as a result of among other things; progressive distancing of African leaders from the masses of the people; and inadequate preparation of the leadership that assumed the responsibility to govern their countries;

Recognizing with regret the age gap between the African gerontocracy and old policy makers and their very youthful citizenry as well as the marginalization of young people in the governance and decision making processes among governments on the continent;

Affirming that leaders in Africa have not always responded effectively to the needs

of the continent;

Convinced that the role of an empowered and well-prepared youth in addressing and solving the chronic problems that confront Africa can never be overemphasized;

Noting with regret gender inequality in the political arena in many African countries where the number of women in parliament, and in executive positions remain less than 20 percent on the average.

Taking note of the cultural diversity in Africa and the exploitation of tribalism by political elites as a tool to foment conflict on the African Continent;

Alarmed by the lack of adequate mentorship and governmental commitment to youth development initiatives that prepares the youth for current tasks and future engagements in governance, leadership and decision making;

We:

Recommend increased and effective youth mentorship and practical leadership training to prepare them for the mandate



of leadership of their respective countries on the African continent.

Call for proactive measures and other quota arrangements that provides at least 40 percent spaces for youth participation and representation in all spheres and sectors of life and decision making.

Recommend inclusive governance through affirmative action policies and legislations that promotes gender equality and ensure adequate representation and participation of women in the political sphere and in leadership positions.

Call on African political leaders and governments to leverage youth capacities and foster partnerships with youth groups, youth networks and organisations in fighting corruption through policy making, implementation and progress monitoring. Ultimately, such partnerships provide formal mentorship and inter-generational lessons on what works and what does not work.

Strongly urge all African states to ratify the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption to help strengthen the fight against corruption on the continent of Africa.

Call for the creation of resourced and functional National Leadership Training Centres for youth to build their leadership skills;

Advocate the setting up of structured platforms to ensure dialogue between youth groups and policy makers which will ensure the formulation and implementation of youth-focused governmental programmes.

Call on the youth to seize the moment and opportunity to wrestle political power and insist on their substantive participation in politics and decision making.



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RESOLUTION CENV/201/2019
RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON
ENVIRONMENT

Noting that 30% of the world's mineral reserves, 10% of the world's oil and 8% of the world's natural reserves are in Africa;

Recognizing with deep concern that Africa continues to rely on natural resource extraction as a source of national revenue and for economic development;

Acknowledging that the unsustainable exploitation of the natural resources in Africa leads to deforestation, soil erosion, pollution (land, air and water) and the destruction of the habitat and ecosystems.

Alarmed by the fact that over 180 million people in sub-Saharan Africa could die because of climate change by the end of the century according to Green Peace;

Deeply concerned that 77% of African forests are being destroyed through activities which include mining (surface mining), felling of trees and heat generation;

Recognizing the effort of some African countries including Ghana, Nigeria, Zambia, and Ethiopia in solving environmental issues in their country through several methods;

Deeply disturbed that 40% of sub Saharan Africans have no access to clean water due to water pollution;

Keeping in mind that public knowledge and enforcement of environmental laws are generally poor, hence noncompliance by some individuals and organizations involved in extraction of natural resources;

We:

Strongly recommend radical afforestation initiatives by governments of African countries working in collaboration with civil society, non-profits and youth groups as a way of arresting the fast desertification of the African continent.

Congratulates Ethiopia for planting 350 million trees in one day and call upon all African countries to learn from them.

Encourage youth groups to help farmers practice sustainable farming practices such as crop rotation, cover crops, reducing the use of chemical fertilizers, embracing diversity farming;

Encourage countries to enact and enforce Laws and Regulations as well as punitive



measures that will deal with those who degrade and endanger the environment.

Further recommend intensive sensitization and education of small scale miners on the implications of their activities on the environment;

Recommend the establishment of recycling plants in African countries to recycle plastic waste into several products; recycle very old vehicles to build warehouses or storage facilities; recycle human waste into biogas,

Call upon African Governments to practice better waste management practices and to halt indiscriminate waste dumping at authorized places.

Advocate a sustained educational and public sensitization programmes on the dangers of plastic and human wastes.

Call on African governments to ensure the use of cleaner sources of fuel by industries and households as well as ensure strict adherence to the demands of the Kyoto Protocol;

Call for the education of farmers on the proper usage of fertilizers and chemicals to avoid spill-overs into water bodies by agricultural agencies in respective countries;

Accepts the adoption and utilization of the "Floating Bin Technology" to clean contaminated rivers, lakes and other water-bodies.

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RESOLUTION CAFS/201/2019
RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

Five years after African Union (AU) Assembly of heads of state and governments adopted the year 2014 as the year of agriculture and food security in Africa, how has the assembly made efforts to ensure that, quality and healthy food is secured for Africans under its Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)? This was the central question that dominated discussions in this Committee.

Recalling the Malabo declaration of Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) which is to create a continental policy framework aimed at agricultural transformation, employment and entrepreneurship development, food security and nutrition for the growing population, economic growth, and per capita prosperity by 2025;

Recognizing invaluable supports from the Rural Economy and Agriculture of the African Union Commission (AUC-DREA), the Planning and Coordination Agency (NPCA), technical agencies and development partners which has led to the complete implementation of CAADP in four member countries, namely, Rwanda, Malawi, Tanzania and Ivory Coast and the

pending approval in eight other countries;

Noting with deep concern the fact that only four African countries that have successfully implemented CAADP;

Keeping in mind the non-existence of a systemic and unified method of data collection and analysis at the country level before evaluation by the Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS), facilitated by The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI);

Alarmed by the conflicting data given by different agencies involved in the enactment of CAADP in a manner that creates doubt and raises serious issues with credibility of information;

Deeply disturbed by lack of clear guidelines on CAADP with respect to policies about access to land by vulnerable groups, specifically the youth and women, who cannot own lands due to extreme and unfavourable traditional practices;

Taking into account the low level of agricultural mechanization in Africa;



Noting with regret the poor collaboration between local researchers and farmers resulting in limited innovation in agriculture;

Deploring the high rate of illiteracy among many African farmers making it difficult for them to access important information on food production and security; .

Deeply regretting soil nutrient depletion worldwide specifically in Africa caused by long-term micro cropping, mining of nutrient, overuse of chemical fertilizer, bush burning, and soil compacting;

Aware of climate change due to human activities, industrial pollution, the use of fossil fuels and the destruction of trees;

Noting with deep concern, the limited trade among African countries, due to certain trade barriers especially, when trading African agricultural produce;

Recognizing the dangers and threats of security by water pollution from farm discharges, industrial waste, and oil spillage;

We:

Strongly urge the New Partnership for Africa's Development NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) as the technical arm of the AU to play a direct role in collecting data from countries, by appointing external representatives to work with signatory countries.

Emphasize the need for government policies to regulate foreign aid for agriculture inputs, agricultural expenditure, productivity, income, and nutrition.

Recommend the amendment of the core values and principles of the CAADP to focus on Public-Private Partnerships and youth-led initiatives.

Call on governments to encourage the use of intermediate technology by allowing the commercialization of local non-patent technologies, machinery and innovation.

Appeal to the AU countries to review laws that are unfavourable to young people, women and other vulnerable groups, minority group on matters relating to access to land.



Fully propose the need for the AU to foster socioeconomic integration and intra-African trade aided by affordable regional transport infrastructure.

Call for extensive capacity building for the youth and women through mentorship programs that showcase success stories of youth in agri-business across the Africa region.

Strongly call for the promotion of agriculture by the AU and all Africa governments as a means to reduce unemployment and dependency on the state.

Propose and call on all African countries to rethink their slow pace and progress towards the implementation of the CAADP.

Recommend increased governmental commitment to mechanizing agriculture and making it more attractive to young

people through adequate resource allocations that may aid the purchase of efficient equipment that will help in commercializing agriculture.

Strongly recommend the accelerated implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCTA).



1. <http://www.nepad.org/cop/comprehensive-africa-agriculture-development-programme-caadp>

2. <file:///C:/Users/User/AppData/Local/Temp/Programmatic%20and%20Institutional%20Overview%20of%20CAADP%20-%202nd%20version.pdf>

3. According to the Food and Agricultural Organization's 2018 Report, only 5% landholders are women in Africa.

4. According to the Food and Agricultural Organization's 2018 Report, mechanization in Agriculture is just about 20% compared with that of developed economies, which is about over 80%

5. <https://ourworldindata.org/literacy#data-sources>

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Acknowledging that Africa has 55 countries with a combination of at least 3000 ethnic groups and 2000 languages;

Keeping in mind that continental unity has been plagued with the challenge of lack of free movement of African citizens between states to transact trading and other activities;

Noting with deep concern that, Africa has experienced its share of the global threat of terrorism, having suffered a total of 4.993 terrorist incidents between 1974-2018,

Affirming that contracts signed by African leaders are poorly negotiated and has culminated in the continent not benefiting from its wealth;

Convinced that some of the arrangements signed by African governments could be extremely exploitative and divisive as they may not be beneficial to African interest;

Deeply concerned by the failure of existing regulatory bodies within the continent to ensure proper negotiations that favor African interest and the implementation as well as fulfilment of international promises;

Further noting, the AU already has the African Peer Review Mechanism, which 'is a tool for sharing experiences, identifying deficiencies, and assessing capacity-building needs to foster policies, standards, and practices that lead to political stability, high economic growth, sustainable development, and accelerated sub-regional and continental economic integration;

Deeply concerned by the extremely low levels of trade within Africa, currently standing at 10-12% between African nations, in comparison to western counterparts such as North America with 40% of internal trade and 63% within Western Europe; and Observing that Africa still has no permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council, the principal decision-making organ of the UN in matters relating to international peace and security of which Africa needs full representation,



We:

1. **Call** on African leaders to deal with the high levels of intolerance and conflict by sensitizing their population about the potential wealth in the diversity of their population.
2. **Advocate** for the accelerated implementation of the declarations made at the 27th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the AU in 2016, relating to an African Passport, unifying identity and easing movement of citizens within the continent.
3. **Recommend** a body to improve cultural tourism to help educate the population on the vast diversity within the continent.
4. **Urge** the AU to speed up its processes of establishing a Special Fund for Combatting and Preventing Terrorism and Extreme Violence in the continent.
5. **Solemnly call** for a review and expert renegotiation of all exploitative contracts, trade agreements and other treatises that do not favor the interests of African countries
6. **Recommend** the rekindling and strengthening of the African Peer Review Mechanism as the paramount Mechanism in dealing with the challenges of bad governance and promoting political accountability.
7. **Recommend** the swift implementation of the Continental Free Trade Agreement as it has the capacity to unite 1.3 billion people and create about \$3.4 trillion economic wealth on the continent.
8. **Call** on countries to sensitize their law enforcement bodies, particularly personnel of the custom services and other relevant stakeholders, on trade facilitation measures, as this has a potential of allowing consumers to have access to quality but cheaper African products.
9. **Recommend** that member states include the issue of Security Council reform among their foreign policy priority engagements with non-African partners.
10. **Call** on the AU Member states to refrain from supporting parochial interests of individual countries that run contrary to common African positions.



1. The diversity is both our greatest strength and weakness. This diversity if not accommodated and appreciated can be an agent of destruction as in the situation where some ethnic groups called for a state within a state such as Biafra in Nigeria and the Afrikaners living in the white enclave of Orania in South Africa and the xenophobic violence that had erupted in South African townships. According to a paper by the University of Pennsylvania - African Studies Center on 'African Connectivity, Problems, Solutions and Actions: Some Recommendations from Inet'96'. The diversity of African communities poses a difficulty in integrating them to the net culture. Language and illiteracy are central to this problem. Most countries use different languages other than English. Network user interfaces to these languages are unavailable and developments in transliteration are in very early stages.

2. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2015/02/05/building-negotiating-capacity-in-africa-to-make-the-most-from-mining-deals>

3. Some of the contracts signed create opportunities for foreign partners to loot Africa's resources and leave the continent essentially underdeveloped. For example, South Africa in 2012 terminated a BIT and announced more cancellations. Another point where African leaders failed at negotiations is the Libyan Gaddafi case, while most of the continent wanted Gaddafi gone with minimal disruption, a few leaders were still sympathetic to the "Brother Leader," among them Museveni and Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe. South African President Zuma's position was ambiguous. Some other African leaders were so antipathetic to Gaddafi that they would have no truck with compromise. Sudan was heavily involved in supporting the TNC. The Ethiopian Prime Minister Meles Zenawi not only nurtured personal disgust towards Gaddafi, but was also furious over Libyan support to Eritrea, and insisted that Gaddafi should step down. Nigerian leaders were also eager to see Gaddafi depart.

4. Agenda 2063

5. Member countries undertake self-monitoring in all aspects of their governance and socio-economic development' which is yet to be experienced.

6. Boosting Intra-African Trade: Issues affecting Intra-African Trade, Proposed Action Plan for boosting Intra-African Trade and Framework for the fast tracking of a Continental Free Trade Area, Economic Commission for Africa, African Union

7. Decisions and Declarations of the AU 27th Ordinary Session, July 2016

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RESOLUTION CDYA/201/2019
RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON
DIASPORA YOUTH AFFAIRS

Noting that since 2010, the migrant population from Africa in such for greener pastures abroad, has grown tremendously;

Observing that African youth in the diaspora are a necessity rather than an option for Africa's development;

Deeply convinced that the return of young Africans in the diaspora to assist in the continent's fight against poverty and underdevelopment is a better option to Africa's development than foreign remittances;

Fully aware that some of the problems affecting African youth in the diaspora, returning to the continent are related to language barriers, cultural differences and the lack of transition/integration programs, and marginalization, and these have been the main hindrances that have hampered the quest for the return of the diasporan youth to the continent;

Noting further that there is lack of collaboration at the sub-regional and continental level in engaging youth in the diaspora to be included in

decision-making in all aspects of Africa's development thus;

Believing that there is limited dialogue opportunities between governments of the continent, Civil Society and Business Organizations on one hand and young people on the continent;

Bearing in mind that Africa's young labor force could soon be a significant natural resource that may be exploited by others around the world;

Recognizing the lack of youth development initiatives on the continent in the areas of job-specific skills, critical thinking, innovation, and technical abilities and its impact on the quest for African and diasporan youth to flourish in Africa;

Fully Alarmed by the somewhat racist and discriminatory treatments that youth in the diaspora are subjected to while in Africa and abroad; and

Deeply Disturbed by the difficulties the youth in diaspora face when seeking Dual Citizenship in Africa.



We:

1. **Call** for interventions that reduces the language barrier faced by many young Africans in the diaspora who want to return to the continent;
2. **Recommend** the need to re-brand Africa to take on a new image in manner that deals with derogatory stereotypes of the continent;
3. **Further recommend** proactive measures to tackle marginalization among young Africans who visit the continent from the diaspora through initiatives such as the YouthConnekt in Ghana, which seeks greater engagement of African and diaspora youth in the political and socio-economic systems of Africa;
4. **Suggest** cultural exchange programmes between African and diaspora youth, in a manner similar to Ghana's Year of Return
5. **Recommend** the setting up of special funds such as African Diaspora Investment Fund (ADIF) to tackle unemployment and underemployment in Africa;
6. **Advocate** the establishment of job-specific skilled training programs across Africa similar to PROFORME project in Côte d'Ivoire that improves job-specific skills and youth employability;
7. **Emphasize** the expansion of programmes like the African Union Youth Volunteer Corps for African and diasporan youth to contribute to the development of the continent through meaningful youth participation where young people acquire crucial professional experience and leadership skills, promote shared values and Pan-Africanism among upcoming generations.
8. **Call** for the setting up of effective dialogue and communications channels between African governments and the youth in the diaspora for the purposes of creating awareness on the need for the diaspora youth to contribute to Africa's development



1. Pew Research Center analysis of the latest United Nations data on the number of emigrants.

2. Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, African Union (AU), September 2015

3. Youth Empowerment, United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, 2018

4. YouthConnekt - A model for youth engagement. Sylvia Sefako, UNDP 2017

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6. PROFORME Project, European Union- International Cooperation and Development, 2016

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AYGC NEW LOGO



Logo Meaning

Red and Green Circles



Youth

Represents Africa growing youth and their vast potentials

Multicolour Lines



Convergence

The circular lines intersecting represents the convergence

Africa Map



Africa

The form is shaped as the African Map.

Yellow



Represents optimism and bright future of African youth

Red



Represents youthful energy and strength

Green



Represents the vast opportunities in the continent

TESTIMONIALS

Deeply interwoven in the fabric of convergence and oneness, the African Youth and Governance Convergence has not fallen short of African rhythm, spirit of Ubuntu, bringing the very best of young brilliant minds, poised to learn, share their diverse culture be it far or near, the world simply comes to stand still through brainstorming sessions, networking, making resolutions that will foster development in our generation as well as shaping the future we all aspire for, thereby leaving a footprint in the annals of history.

The 11th African youth and Convergence certainly was memorable as well a point that reigned a spark of excellence evoking a call to be significant in this generation as a young person. It challenged me to take up the mantle of great leaders, who through their sacrifice and resilience, we are where we are today. From the great host country Ghana, lauded with great food and culture, bursting with serene sites to behold, it was just poised for this event. I certainly treasure the chance to contribute to this great calls that challenges young minds, brimming with vast potentials and untapped energies, to take our continent to greater heights of excellence.

Abraham Simutanyi, Zambia

My AYGC experience was a mind transforming one that has changed my perception of making impact. I think in a more collaborative sense now and I do not take leadership grooming lightly. My world has grown bigger because of networking, and I believe more than ever that Africa has a future in its youth, who are ready to push the continent to where it rightly belongs.

Margaret Blankson - Ghana

AYGC 2019 for me was a very surreal experience because it was a dream come true. It was a one of a kind experience designed to develop the potentials of the youth across the globe. It exposed me to what it takes to be a leader. It made me think about my continent and the world in a very positive light and ignited a burning fire in me to do my best as a young African to improve my lot and help develop my continent. I met like minds who are passionate about Africa and concerned about what we can do to improve the continent. I have formed lasting relationships with young people from Africa and the Diaspora which I intend to keep for life. I recommend the AYGC experience to every young person.

Esther Yayra Attipoe - Ghana

AYGC 2019 was a wonderful experience for me, I've never attended a youth program this well organized and every youth at the convergence was treated with respect, profound recognition and prestige which made us realize our importance in national development and the development of Africa in general.

My perspective on leadership, governance and the youth has taken a different turn, prior to AYGC I was made to believe politics was a dirty game but then we were reminded by the Former President of Nigeria, His Excellency Chief Olusegun Obasanjo that, the adults will not simply wake up in a day and hand over power to the youth and therefore challenged delegates and African youth to rise up and take our space because we are the leaders of today not tomorrow.

Violet Miyanda Munsaka - Zambia

The convergence gave me the opportunity to network with the youth from other African countries and the Diaspora. Building this strong bond with fellow youth from other African countries and the diaspora helped deepened my understanding of the common issues affecting African youth and the continent as a whole.

Consistent with the convergence theme "Partnerships for youth development: Key to building a continent beyond aid", I am inspired to build networks and develop partnerships to build my community and country Tanzania beyond aid.

Judith Mbakize, Tanzania



A team building session.



Committee members in a brainstorming session with one of the coaches at the AYGC 2019.

GALLERY OF AYGC 2019 ACTIVITIES



Innovative leadership lessons through a marshmallow spaghetti challenge.



Section of delegates paying homage to the chief and elders of Cape Coast (Oguaa) Traditional Area during the historical tour.



A group picture of AYGC 2019 delegates with coaches and team, chief and elders of Cape Coast.



A section of the delegates poses for the camera during a historical visit to the Elmina Castle.



Coaches and delegates in a panel discussion.



Rev. Anthony Cudjoe (Board Member- YBF) participated as a mentor and inspired delegates on their preparations for leadership.



A section of the delegates pose with Former President of Nigeria, Chief Olusegun Obasanjo.



Presentation of the AYGC eminent fellowship award to His Excellency Chief Olusegun Obasanjo by Prof N'Dri Thérèse Assié-Lumumba (YBF Board Member and Patron) from Cornell University.



A group picture of recipients of AYGC special recognition awards.



Mr. Santokh Singh(MD, TV of Multimedia Group) receiving a special recognition award as an Honorary Fellow of AYGC.



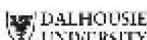
Picture of the AYGC 2019 President and Vice President as well as some coaches and mentors.



Delegates dancing and socialising at the entertainment night.



Tanzanian delegates setting up to present their prepared food during "My Country Cuisine" moment.



Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic (CAR), Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Republic of the Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe

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COMMUNIQUÉ

A COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE YOUTH AND GOVERNANCE CONFERENCE HELD ON THE 12TH TO 14TH OF AUGUST 2009 AT THE ACCRA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTRE, GHANA

PREAMBLE

Recognizing the importance of good governance and democracy for the advancement of youth development in Africa;

Mindful of the sharp increase in the percentage of youth populations in Africa;

Convinced that Africa's greatest resource is its youthful population and that through their active and full participation, Africa can surmount the difficulties that lie ahead;

Empowered by the Declaration of 2009 – 2019 as a decade for youth development by the Executive Council of the African Union in its last meeting in January, 2009 in Addis Ababa;

Concerned by the slow response of African governments to ratify the African Youth Charter;

Fully committed to the virtues and values of African historical tradition and civilization which form the foundation for our concept of people's rights;

Taking into consideration the inter-relatedness of the challenges facing African Youth and the need for cross-sectoral policies and programmes which attend to the needs of youth in a holistic manner;

Noting with great concern the situation of the African youth, many of whom are marginalized from mainstream society as a result of unemployment and underemployment, HIV/AIDS pandemic, poverty and hunger, illiteracy and poor educational standards, restricted access to health services and to information;

Considering that the promotion and protection of the rights of the youth also demands the performance of duties by the youth as by all other actors in society,

Guided by the Constitutive Act of the African Union, the States Parties of the African Union, Parties to 'African Youth Charter;

AND

After a three day's Conference held in Accra, Ghana at the Accra International Conference Center on the 12th to the 14th of August, 2009

NOTED THAT:

1. Young people as a result of lack of capacity have failed to take their rightful place in governance and hold their representatives accountable for their political promises to empower the youth and actively involve them in positive development initiatives
2. The prevalence of weak structures and poor support mechanisms have contributed to the low rate of youth participation at the community and domestic levels.
3. There is a lack of common representative front for young people to engage government and other key stakeholders on critical decisions that affect them.
4. There is lack of strong political commitment to Youth Development as evidenced by the unwillingness of many African governments to ratify the African youth charter and develop precise and implementable youth policy which will address the many challenges facing the youth of Africa.
5. Corporate entities operating in Africa have failed to appreciate the importance of peaceful environment for successful and vibrant business climate.

The conference therefore calls on the

African Union (AU)

1. To consider the urgency of promoting the integration of youth in the governance affairs of the continent by ensuring fair and equitable mandatory representation of the youth at policy meetings, dialogues and debates
2. Support and fund initiatives targeted at youth development to facilitate their empowerment and promote accountability of such measures with active participation of the youth as primary beneficiaries
3. Provide guidelines for the formulation of effective youth policies and monitor progress and effective implementation of such policies by AU member states
4. Step up information dissemination on all youth related government policies and programmes at the continental level and create measures obligating AU member states to entrench access to information laws

African Governments

5. To ratify the African Youth Charter and make it operational in their countries as a sign of commitment towards the youth
6. To develop proactive national youth policies and ensure their effective implementation
7. To provide adequate resources to fund youth programmes
8. To provide opportunity for quality education by developing curricula that meets local demands and improve graduate employability

9. To work together to accelerate vocational, technical (skills) training, exchange programmes in order to make it more attractive to the youth and disseminate information on its usefulness to personal and national development.
10. Conduct situational analysis of the status of young people in their countries to inform strategic planning of policies and support
11. Put in place measures to ensure that youth groups are strengthened and empowered to bring about positive change in national development.

Young People in Africa

12. To conduct themselves in the spirit of integrity, respect and accountability to win support from stakeholders.
13. All youth organizations to work assiduously towards the realization of a broad based representative coalition to champion the cause of young people in Africa;
14. To dig deeper into their creative reserves and pull human and financial resources together to build partnerships and strategic networks to help break the cycle of poverty;
15. To commit themselves to research and study to build their capacity for positive action
16. To be patriotic and show positive attitude to work in their chosen careers

Media

17. To join the advocacy campaign for governments to ratify the African Youth Charter
18. Disseminate information on the African Youth Charter and national youth policies
19. Engage in rigorous promotional activities for youth involvement in governance and create awareness about youth programmes
20. Disseminate information on structures, policies and programmes that contribute towards youth development
21. Ensure the voices of young people are heard

All Development Partners

22. Support the operationalization of all youth related policies
23. Promote sustainable partnerships, networking and integration of youth in national development efforts

Corporate Entities in Africa

24. To demonstrate high Corporate Social Responsibility in supporting programmes aimed at building the capacity of the youth and not to leave this task to the international development entities alone
25. Promote and sustain fruitful partnerships with youth groups for youth development

AN INITIATIVE OF



Bridging Gaps for Positive Youth Development



6th African Youth And Governance Conference

LUSAKA 2014



resolution booklet

SIXTH AFRICAN YOUTH AND GOVERNANCE CONFERENCE

4th-8th August 2014

Benin Botswana Burkina Faso Burundi Cameroon Cape Verde
Central African Republic Chad Democratic Republic of Congo Rep. of Congo
Cote d'Ivoire Djibouti Egypt Equatorial Guinea Eritrea Ethiopia
Ghana Guinea Guinea Bissau Kenya Liberia
Malawi Mauritania Mauritius Morocco
Mali Mozambique Sao Tome and Principe
Somalia South Africa South Sudan
Tunisia Uganda Zambia Zimbabwe

Conference Overview

Africa is experiencing the most rapid urbanization in the world today, and has 65% of her over 1.1billion population under the age of 35years. According to a Mo Ibrahim report of 2012¹, it is estimated that between 2000 and 2100, Africa will gain 340 million young people, compared to a net increase of 137 million in the whole world, due to diminishing cohorts in Europe, Latin America and Asia and this will increase the continent's share of the global youth population from 15% to 41%.

Cognizant of the fact that investment in African youth will generate substantial national and continental development multiplier, Youth Bridge Foundation (YBF) initiated in 2009 the African Youth and Governance Conference (AYGC). The initiative provides the opportunity for the youth to discuss and find solutions to issues affecting them and the development of the continent whilst advocating for their inclusion in policy development processes and the broader governance realm.

In 2014, GIZ on behalf of the Ministry for Economic Development and Cooperation of the Federal Republic of Germany under its “Commitment for Africa” Programme, supported YBF to collaborate with the International Office of the European Youth Parliament (EYP) to organize the first ever **Euro-African Youth Parliament** in Berlin, from 27th March to 4th April, 2014. The event, which was attended by 100 youth delegates (50 from 20 Africa Countries), served as a unique platform for cross-cultural learning and capacity building on the EYP model of youth engagement and participation.

Building on the outcomes of previous AYG-Conferences and the hosting to southern Africa, the 6th AYGC was held at the MIKA Convention Center in Lusaka, Zambia from the 4th-8th August, 2014. The Lusaka 2014 conference introduced the use of Committee system, Team Building, Grande Debate (General Assembly), delegates-led media and event coordination as capacity building and hands-on learning opportunities for attendees. This enabled conference participants to deliberate and reflect on continental and global issues using knowledge, skills and creativity for Africa’s development.

Targeting youth aged 18-35years, the conference was anchored on the three pillars of Policy, Participation and Mobilization. The conference approach involved the following 3-pronged engagements:

- Youth to Youth: Promote youth interactions, networks and partnerships across cultures/borders. This comprised the use of **Committee** system, which allowed delegates to engage with fellow youth, carry out research on issues to produce informed recommendations in the form of resolutions the conference climax -Grande Debate (General Assembly). The Committees were chaired by pre-selected and trained youth delegates who report to the Conference Board comprising the President and Vice Presidents of the session.
- Youth and Policy Makers: Empower and support youth as agents of social inclusion and peace. This comprised complementary engagements between the committees and subject area specialists’ dubbed **expert sessions** to offer delegates with practical knowledge and information to guide the preparation of their resolutions and presentations at the Grande Debate.
- Youth and Corporate Africa: Partnerships for youth development, peace and business development. This comprised plenary engagements on cross-cutting themes of employment, business development and entrepreneurship, investment and sustainable development. This session included delegate engagements with **corporate sector practitioners** on personal development and investments for start-up and future life.

¹ <http://www.moibrahimfoundation.org/downloads/African-Youth-Fulfilling-the%20Potential.pdf>

Preamble

We, youth delegates at the 6th African Youth and Governance Conference held from the 4th-8th of August, 2014 at the MIKA Convention Center in Lusaka, Zambia on the theme “**Investing in Africa’s Human Capital for Peace and Development**”, organized by the Youth Bridge Foundation (YBF) ;

Considering that with 65 percent of her over 1.1billion population under the age of 35years, Africa remains the only continent with a significantly growing youth population;

Acknowledging the assertion by the Heads of States in the preamble of AU Youth Charter that the youth represent the continent’s greatest resource,

Further **noting** initiatives such as the Agenda 2063 and declaration of the period 2009-2018 as decade for African Youth Development by the African Union (AU) to promote youth development;

Concerned about the growing challenges of unemployment, education, participation in governance and development processes, among others confronting African youth and the member countries;

Alarmed that:

- ✓ **although literacy rate is increasing, Africa lags behind the rest of the world;**
- ✓ **Young Africans are more literate than their parents, but their generation is more unemployed;**
- ✓ **Youth unemployment increases with education level in Africa;**
- ✓ **over the next 10 years, there will be 108 million more school-age children on the continent, but now only 2/3 of students’ progress from primary to secondary education in Africa;**

Recognizing the need for the youth to play active roles in ensuring the continent reaps greater benefits from its human resource in a changing and competitive global world,

Gathered together as young people from the continent on the seven thematic (through committees) and two cross-cutting issues as follows:

COMMITTEES	CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES
International Relations	Investment And Sustainable Development
Education and Culture	Employment & Entrepreneurship Development
Agriculture and Food Security	
Governance and Leadership Development	
Health And Post 2015 Agenda	
Environment & Renewable Energy	
Peace And Security	

This booklet highlights the specific committee resolutions and recommendations for policy advocacy by youth and broader civil society at continental, national and local levels.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Submitted by: Bwembya Lusando (ZM), Chisepo Chirwa (ZM), Brighton Ross Kinemo (TZ), Jane Zulu (ZM), Joan Mtaja (Chairperson, ZM)

As Africa looks to strengthen its position in international relations how can African countries ensure that their interest and that of future generations are protected in all the partnership agreements they enter into with the rest of the world? What mechanisms could be put in place to ensure youth participation and ownership of Agenda 2063?

The 6th African Youth and Governance Conference,

- A. Considering that more than 60% of Africa's population (36.9% of its work force) are youth;¹
- B. Endorsing AU's recognition of the youth as the greatest resource of the continent in the preamble of the African Youth Charter;
- C. Alarmed by the fact that young people under 25 represent three-fifth of sub-Saharan Africa's unemployed population, and 72 percent of the youth population live on less than \$2 a day;²
- D. Recognizing that a major challenge facing African governments, UN agencies, Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and civil society is providing tools in creative and thoughtful ways that engage young people to work collaboratively in improving their communities;
- E. Realising that 36 of the 54 Member States have, as at April 2014, ratified the African Youth Charter and that³;
- F. Note with concern that half-way past the Decade of Youth Development 2009-2018 and the Action Plan of Youth Development, its implementation is slow, time-lines are not being met and youth actors are not involved;
- G. Fully aware that African Heads of States declared Agenda 2063 in order for the continent to effectively learn from the lessons of the past, build on the progress underway and exploit all possible opportunities to ensure socioeconomic transformation within the next 50 years;
- H. Mindful of the importance of science and technology for the transformative agenda of Africa;
- I. Cognizant of the low levels of technology development, transfer and the continent's capacity deficits with respect to technology;

¹ <http://www.africa-youth.org/>

² World Bank, 2010

³ Africa Union, 2014

- J. Observing that many partnership agreements are entered into without the involvement and consultation of youth in the negotiation process; bearing in mind that the signing of trade and partnership agreements that have long gestation periods can compromise the growth and development of African States particularly of future generations;
- K. Fully aware of the coordinating role of AU in African affairs at global and continental level;
- L. Alarmed at the failure of regional blocs such as ECOWAS and SADC to adhere to AU recommendations for Member States to halt the signing of the EPAs with the EU;

1. Recommends the de-coupling of the Portfolio for Human Resources, Science and Technology;
2. Entreats AU to commit to making budgetary provisions for the recommended Commissioner for Youth Affairs and his/her Staff;
3. Calls upon AU to, through broader consultation with key actors, review the Action Plan for Youth Development and set priorities for the remaining five years;
4. Urges Member States that are yet to ratify the African Youth Charter and enact national youth policies to do so in order to create needed opportunity for young people in their countries;
5. Entreats AU to task Ministers of States responsible for youth to report on their countries' performance on the implementation of the AYC at the 5th and subsequent Sessions of African Union Conference of Ministers in charge of Youth (COMY) to promote the effective monitoring mechanisms to address implementation gaps;
6. Recommends the improved information dissemination, education and communication of the policies and activities of AU to ensure that the youth are sensitized and capacity developed to actively be involved in its processes and participate in making decisions that affect them at all levels;
7. Strongly urges the popularisation and efforts to enhance youth ownership of the AU Agenda 2063 through a well-coordinated civic education program;
8. Encourages intrinsic engagement of the youth at all levels of decision making;
9. Emphasises the need for youth to be actively involved in the negotiation processes at partnership platforms to ensure that Member States make informed decisions on the basis of expert advice;
10. Requests that African leaders negotiate partnership agreements in blocs and taking the stance of an equal partner;
11. Recommends that the existing Anti-corruption bodies should be well resourced to work independently of the government to ensure that state officials responsible for brokering such partnership agreements are held accountable for their actions;
12. Urges AU to create an enabling financial and regulatory environment: to improve access to home-grown technological and environmentally sound innovations;
13. Further requests the need for the AU to ensure that the Assembly has one voice and is united during partnerships to push forward the Continental Agenda;
14. Recommends that the AU in consultation with Member States enacts and implement legislations that provide stricter sanctions over member bodies that violate them.

**MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURE**

In trying to shape its future through education, what appropriate educational policies can Africa design to drastically reduce high dropout rates and build the required competencies of its youth?

Submitted by: Tolulope Helen Aladesuyi (NG), Sibongile B. Sibango (ZM), Kelvin Aongola (ZM), Ernest P. Koranteng (GH), Lumbiwe Lulu Limbikani (Chairperson, ZM)

The 6th African Youth Governance Conference,

- A. Noting with regret that more than 50 percent (133 million young people) of Africa's youth are illiterate;¹
- B. Concerned that although Africa spends more on secondary education than the global average, youth unemployment increases with education level in Africa
- C. Fully aware of the progress made by African countries in improving access to enrollment and access to basic education targets in the Millennium Development Goal 2015²;
- D. Alarmed that the over-concentration on access through increased enrollment without consideration for quality and retention beyond the basic level and therefore only 2/3 of children progress from primary to secondary education in Africa³;
- E. Concerned further that the MDGs overly focused on basic education, which led to many African countries initiating policies limited to primary education at the expense of secondary and tertiary education in terms of access and quality.
- F. Noting that existing policies⁴ have limited scope for addressing drop-out rates particularly among girl-child in schools in Africa;

¹ World Bank, 2010

² Millennium Development Goals - www.un.org/millenniumgoals

³ <http://www.moibrahimfoundation.org/downloads/2013/2012-facts-and-figures.pdf>

⁴ African Youth Charter, Agenda 2063, AU Youth Decade Plan of Action

- G. Recognizing the important linkage between adolescent reproductive health and education;
- H. Noting with deep concern the high dropout rate in schools in Africa⁵;
- I. Taking into consideration the poor quality of the current education systems in Africa;
- J. Further recognizing the lack of required competencies⁶ for African youth to contribute to the development of the continent;
- K. Noting with regret the lack of work experience and internship opportunities for young people with private companies and corporations;
- L. Fully aware of the availability of natural resources in Africa but the void of corresponding educational methodologies to facilitate the harnessing and value addition of these resources;

⁵ UNESCO Education For All Global Monitoring Report 2011

⁶ UNESCO, *Youth and Skills: Putting Education to Work* (Paris: UNESCO, 2012); fundamental skills of literacy and numeracy; transferable skills of analysis, communication and problem solving and technical and vocational skills in aspects such as computers, agriculture and carpentry. Of these the first two are very important and the longer a person stays in school the better to acquire the mentioned competencies

1. Calls upon African governments to adhere to and implement existing policies and frameworks such as the AU Youth Decade Plan of Action and national level educational policies in order to reduce dropout rates;
2. Encourages African governments to offer a second window to those that have left school to return through integrated adult education and tertiary education initiatives;
3. Emphasize the need for continued investment in Educational infrastructure to progressively accommodate more young people in schools at secondary and tertiary levels by African governments and relevant international agencies;
4. Urges African governments to enhance the quality of education by having qualified and motivated teachers, who teach relevant material to produce required competencies;
5. Further reminds African governments to fully implement the African Youth Charter (AYC) which provides for Education and Skills Development (Article 13);
6. Governments should review their education polices and infrastructures to make it possible for People with Disabilities (PWDs) to access quality education at all levels
7. Requests African governments to implement recommendations and policies that:
 - (a) keep children healthy in school by providing food,
 - (b) adopt free but high quality education up to high school level which should be included in a country's budget,
 - (c) promote development through relevant education for the youth in skills that can be applied in the future,
 - (d) improve the quality and conditions of the teaching service,
 - (e) provide reproductive health education early on in the curriculum to avoid drop out of girls due to pregnancy and early marriage;
8. Recommends the introduction of national service in countries where they do not exist, for graduate college and university students in order to:
 - (a) provide work experience for young people who cannot get internship and any other work exposure,
 - (b) promote young people's participation in decision making processes in government institutions as part of their training;
9. Further calls for private companies and organisations to provide internship opportunities for young people;
10. Implores young people to recognize and readily seize available opportunities to build on their skills and competences.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

Against the background of the declaration of the Year of Agriculture and Food Security, and the fact that the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) has been running for the past ten years, what practical measures should be adopted by Africa to achieve the desired results?

Submitted by: Alfred Tembo (ZM), Alice Dakubo (GH), Madalitso Mbewe (ZM), Mukalo Namwinga (ZM), Lombe Tembo (Chairperson, ZM)

The 6th African Youth and Governance Conference

- A. Fully aware that in Africa budgetary allocation and investments in agriculture are inadequate although the sector contributes more than 75% of the livelihood of the people¹;
- B. Alarmed by the fact that in Africa, the agricultural sector and particularly farming is less attractive to young people, hence most farmers tend to be older persons and this impacts on productivity and in turn food insecurity;
- C. Further distressed by the fact that over half of the continent's 1.1 billion people are under the age of 25 but 60% of young Africans are jobless²;
- D. Noting with regret that the awareness and participation of young people in agriculture sector policies and programmes such as the CAADP (Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme) remain low;
- E. Deeply concerned that with weak controls and general leakages (corruption) which leads to diversion of allocated resources are having negative impact on African country ability to realise the desired goals of the CAADP;
- F. Aware of the over reliance on human labour and under-utilisation of modern technology towards agriculture and food security;
- G. Bearing in mind that the lack of development of infrastructure such as irrigation and storage facilities, motorable road networks in farming communities are a major drawback towards food security in Africa;
- H. Deeply conscious of the weak intra-African trade links (only 12% of Africa's total trade), which is exacerbated by high taxes and bureaucracy³; due to
- I. Noting with concern the fact that one-third of food produced for human consumption is lost or wasted globally, which amounts to about 1.3 billion tons per year⁴;

¹ <http://www.fao.org/docrep/014/mb060e/mb060e00.pdf>

² <http://www.africaneconomicoutlook.org>

³ <http://www.economist.com/blogs/baobab/2013/04/intra-african-trade>

⁴ <http://www.fao.org/docrep/014/mb060e/mb060e00.pdf>

1. Urges African national governments to increase allocation of financial resources towards the agricultural sector in line with the CAADP;
2. Calls upon national governments, research institutes, regional agriculture institutes and other stakeholders to improve living conditions for farmers through:
 - (i.) Provision of specialised medical insurance to registered farmers at state, national and regional levels,
 - (ii.) Investing in more agricultural equipment that eases farming practice,
 - (iii.) Educating agriculture personnel to improve overall productivity;
3. Recommends that organisers of such programs in the CAADP should come up with ways of involving youths such as mainstreaming agriculture education early at primary level in African schools and engage youth on agri-policy development processes;
4. Calls for the training of more auditors and intensive follow up on registered beneficiaries to ensure accountability and transparency in Agric sector by African national governments;
5. Advocates that African national governments and extension officers⁵ should collaborate with young people to identify and introduce innovative technologies to improve agricultural productivity along the entire value chain of the sector.
6. Requests that African national governments should reduce taxes on trade of agricultural produce within Africa;
7. African Trade Policy Centre (ATPC) must ensure that their policies on agricultural trade create an enabling environment that will encourage intra-Africa trade;
8. Calls for African governments to create an enabling environment for infant industries to thrive, particularly in manufacturing in order to improve agro-industry linkages;
9. Requests that young people in agriculture should organize themselves through:
 - (i.) Partnerships to diversify and upscale their production and marketing,
 - (ii.) Investments in infrastructure, transportation, food industries and packaging industries;
10. Encourages young people to take advantage of the employment and entrepreneurship prospects in avenues of agriculture that do not focus on farming alone.
11. The AU should support the establishment of Agri-sector incubators to attract and build capacity of the teeming youth population of Africa to contribute to productivity and overall food security on the continent.

⁵ an advisor employed by the government to assist people in rural areas with methods of farming and home economics

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

How can African countries increase the involvement of the youth in governance and key leadership activities at the national and regional levels? How can the African youth be positioned to effectively contribute to defining the continent's development priorities in the next decade?

Submitted by: Constance Pelete (ZM), Chilomba Chilungi (ZM), Isaac Yeboah Afari (GH),
Malama Andrew Chinungi (ZM), Tinashe Kasweshi (ZM), Delight Haangala
(ZM), Benjamin Larbi (Chairperson, GH), Lilly Mensah (Chairperson, GH)

The 6th African Youth and Governance Conference

- A. Recognizing efforts by the African Union to adopt youth-related policies and instruments such as the:
 - African Youth Charter (AYC)¹ which entreats all member bodies to develop a National Youth Policy (NYP)²,
 - AU Youth Decade Plan of Action 2009-2018;
- B. Aware of the limited youth participation in governance processes and decision making at the national and local levels in many African countries;
- C. Concerned about the poor implementation and domestication of continental policies which Member States such as the enactment of national youth policies and establishment of youth parliaments;
- D. Noting with regret the general lack of well-coordinated capacity development and mentorship programmes in to adequately prepare the youth for future leadership roles;
- E. Realizing the reluctance on the part of the decision makers to appoint youth into leadership positions due to dissatisfactory performance of some youth entrusted with leadership roles in the past;
- F. Deeply concerned about the lack of confidence among some young people to take up leadership positions due to deeply-ingrained cultural barriers that relegate them to the background on a number of societal and communal issues;

¹African Youth Charter is a political and legal framework for youth empowerment and development activities at continental, regional and national levels and endorsed in July 2006

² National Youth Policy is an essential planning tool guiding the country's approach to youth development.

- 1) Encourages the AU to ensure that member states ratify and fully implement the African Youth Charter (AYC), through the establishment of appropriate monitoring mechanisms, which make provision for,
 - a) Sustainable livelihood and Youth employment (Article 15),
 - b) Youth Participation (Article 11),
 - c) Youth Development (Article 10),
 - d) Development of a Comprehensive and Coherent National Youth Policy (Article 12),
 - e) Education and Skills Development (Article 13);
- 2) Further recommends Member States of the AU to formulate guidelines and roadmaps to implement the National Youth Parliament (NYP) required by them in Article 11 of the AYC which should make provision for:
 - a) Participation of youth in national policy formulation processes,
 - b) Leadership structured programs,
 - c) Good governance,
 - d) Coordination and collaboration,
 - e) Mentoring;
- 3) Calls upon African governments to institute mentorship programmes in the public sector to groom future leaders/public officials;
- 4) Urges African governments to scale up investments in strengthening and resourcing existing manufacturing industries in order to provide economic empowerment for young people, thus providing them with a means to developing their latent leadership skills;
- 5) Enjoins member countries to adopt progressive mentoring and capacity building initiatives such as the National Service Scheme in Ghana and Nigeria to provide graduates of tertiary education with corporate apprenticeship which would help them transit from academic to corporate world;
- 6) Entreats African governments to strengthen and resource already existing programmes geared towards empowering illiterate and literate youth with entrepreneurial skills;
- 7) Recommends Development partners to sponsor and support young people to participate in programmes and conferences such as the African Youth and Governance Conference

(AYGC) that help young people to develop research, problem solving skills, communication/public speaking skills which are crucial skills for leadership;

- 8) Further invites corporate entities in Africa to support programmes that seek to educate youth on governance and economic issues and encourage youth participation in leadership activities;
- 9) Request corporate entities to create internship and volunteering opportunities to equip young people with vital management and leadership skills for development;
- 10) Encourages young people to take proactive measures to empower themselves with needed skills in order to make informed decisions by showing commitment to continuous self-development.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND POST 2015 AGENDA

“With the deadline of MDGs drawing closer, what specific measures can African countries adopt to accelerate its efforts in bridging the inequitable access to basic health services? What space and mechanisms can African countries put in place for youth appreciation and support in ensuring effective country implementation on continental and global decisions on health [e.g. Abuja Declaration and the Common African Position (CAP) on Post 2015 Agenda]?

Submitted by: Charles Steve Kazembe (ZM), Kahilu Samuyachi (ZM), Modester Tembo (ZM), Darlington .K. Chiwanza (ZM), Tresford Manda (ZM), Olojede Victor (Co-Chairperson, NG), Dr. Chris Abrahams Mlelemba (Chairperson, MW)

The 6th African Youth and Governance Conference,

- A. Taking into account, that most African countries have poor health systems;
- B. Alarmed by the high doctor-patient ratio in our health facilities;
- C. Recognizing that despite efforts of African governments in providing new health facilities in their countries, access to these facilities remain a challenge particularly for the poor and vulnerable in rural areas;
- D. Noting that despite the progress made, progress on the health related MDGs such as child and maternal mortality remain insufficient to achieve the targets by 2015;
- E. Bearing in mind that most African countries have high poverty levels and poor nutrition practices;
- F. Further noting with regret that most African governments do not engage the youth in the formulation and implementation of health policies including adolescent reproductive health policies;
- G. Deeply concerned that some African countries still record high levels of early marriages, infant and maternal mortalities ;
- H. Fully aware that in most rural and deprived communities in Africa, births still occur in homes or outside the health facilities without the help of a skilled attendant;
- I. Welcoming the idea that some of the African countries have adopted the promotion of girl child education to reduce early marriages and related, infant and neo-natal mortality;
- J. Encouraged by the efforts and youth consultations on 'The World We Want' as part of the Post 2015 Agenda;
- K. Concerned however about the inclusion and development of youth specific goals and associated targets in the final Post 2015 document to be agreed upon by world leaders;
- L. Stress on the importance of male medical circumcision as one of the effective ways of reducing the prevalence of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) that causes Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS), Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), infant urinary

tract infection, penile cancer (in men) and cervical cancer (in women), and human papilloma virus which aids to reduce infant mortality;

1. Calls upon African youth in both urban and rural areas to fully participate in programs and activities that contribute towards achievement of the MDGs and successor the Post 2015 Agenda;
2. Encourages African youth to, through sensitization campaigns and research-based advocacy, help monitor country progress on the MDGs and make policy demands for African governments to keep their MDGs/Post 2015-related promises.
3. Calls on African governments to provide and monitor for high standard, effective and approachable youth focused health centers especially on issues of Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health;
4. Urges African governments and various stakeholders such as international organizations including the United Nations Agencies to train and support Traditional Birth Attendants (TBA's) in executing their work professionally;
5. Further requests that African governments through their Ministries of Health to improve distribution and access to medical equipment in both urban and rural areas to enhance health service delivery;
6. Encourages all African governments and stakeholders to invest more in health related research in order to have accurate data on epidemiological trends;
7. Enjoins CSOs in health to mobilise and support the participation of youths in health policy formulation;
8. Advocates for the AU to set up independent fund to support countries to implement universal and equitable access to improved health care¹ for mothers, newborn and children as a targeted intervention to reduce deaths;
9. Further invites the youth in the media to assist in advocacy and dissemination of information and other awareness campaigns in areas of:
 - a) Under- 5 mortality,
 - b) Maternal mortality,
 - c) HIV and AIDS,
 - d) Malaria and other related diseases.

¹ Improved medical infrastructure including local manufacturing of health commodities, health systems and financing and putting in place monitoring and evaluation, and quality assurance systems

**MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND RENEWABLE ENERGY**

In exploiting its natural resources to meet domestic and international market demands, what strategies/approaches can Africa adopt to ensure that the negative impacts of such extractive activities on the environment are reversed and/or avoided to promote environmentally sustainable development?

Submitted by: Tinashe Mombemuriwo (ZW), Cynthia Tembo (ZM), Chali Mwape (ZM), Bolarinwa Iyanoluwa Simon, (NG), Mutubwa Mpundu (ZM), Christabel Machila (ZM), Bob Mandinyenya (Chairperson, ZW)

The 6th African Youth and Governance Conference

- A. Acknowledging that African countries are underdeveloped, and rely on natural resource extraction for economic development;
- B. Fully aware that natural resource exploitation occurs in forms such as:
 - i. Mining of mineral and land resources,
 - ii. extraction of forest products,
 - iii. drilling for crude oil and gas industry,
- C. Noting with regret that the exploitation of these natural resources often lead to environmental pollution of land and water bodies of local communities,
- D. Fully aware that despite the potential benefits of employment, foreign exchange and development of local infrastructure, the social, economic and environmental cost of natural resource extraction in Africa is almost becoming synonymous with the proverbial “Dutch Disease”;
- E. Further noting that, the negative environmental impact of extracting natural resources, such as:
 - i. deforestation,
 - ii. soil erosion,
 - iii. emission of green house gases (e.g. methane) – which leads to Climate change,
 - iv. pollution,
 - v. habitat destruction & ecosystem disruption,
- F. Noting with concern that although natural resource exploitation provides job opportunities for young people, some youth are deeply engaged in illegal mining as a source of income and adopt environmentally unfriendly practises;
- G. Alarmed by the poor waste management systems used in the extraction of natural resources;
- H. Noting with concern that progress on the environment related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Africa has lagged behind and insufficient to achieve the targets by 2015;
- I. Keeping in mind that public knowledge and enforcement of environmental laws are generally poor, hence noncompliant by some individuals and organisations involved in extraction of natural resources;

1. Calls upon African countries to revise and strengthen their Environmental Legislation by ensuring that all environmental laws are disseminated extensively to the public in major local languages particularly in areas where natural resource exploitation is rife;
2. Encourages African countries to resource and enhance capacity of their Environmental enforcement bodies to enhance their operational effectiveness;
3. Calls for the AU and the United Nations to improve support and funding to organisations and individuals that revitalise and resuscitate the environment (i.e. through afforestation etc);
4. Further recommends the initiation of educational programmes to sensitize rural communities on the effects of natural resource extraction such as deforestation and illegal mining on the environment etc;
5. Urges African Governments and private sector operatives to invest in alternative energy sources such as;
 - i. solar energy systems¹,
 - ii. liquid petroleum gas (LPG)²,
6. Further invites African governments to set up or support the setting up of waste management industries such as recycling and composting to reduce the effect of poor waste management;
7. African Governments, Corporate Africa and Civil Society/Non-Governmental Organizations to, collaboratively prioritize the availability of potable water supply for all and closing the sanitation gap;
8. Express its hope that African Governments will support young people with entrepreneurship skills and initiatives which are environmentally friendly;
9. African Governments to encourage Research, Innovation and Development (RID) programs on environmentally friendly waste management practices in tertiary institutions;
10. Call upon African youths to actively support governments to minimise negative environmental activities by :
 - i. desisting from illegal mining activities,
 - ii. initiating Environmental campaigns within their communities,
 - iii. improving knowledge through study programmes in sanitation and environment.

¹ A system that harvests energy from sunlight by capturing the sun's radiant energy falling within the system's aperture and converting it to a desired form of energy such as electricity or heat carried by a fluid.

² A gas liquefied by compression, consisting of flammable hydrocarbons, as propane and butane, obtained as a by-product from the refining of petroleum or from natural gas: used chiefly as a domestic fuel in rural areas, as an industrial and motor fuel, and in organic synthesis, especially of synthetic rubber.

MOTION FOR RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMITTEE ON PEACE, SECURITY AND DEFENCE

How can African member states, their civil societies and the AU work together towards the prevention of conflict? What approaches should be used to reintegrate and positively harness the potential of youth in post conflict countries. How can youth be engaged in peace building process?

Submitted by: Racheal Rutendo Chilengi (ZM), Francinah Mhende (ZM), Shaffik Muyaka (ZM) Kacwanda Ngalande (ZM), Ebenezer Nii Martey (Chairperson, GH), Kennedy Walusala (Chairperson, KE)

The 6th African Youth and Governance Conference,

- A. Taking note that many African countries are experiencing some sort of conflict ranging from civil wars, genocide, political instability and ethnic conflicts inter alia;
- B. Realising the protracted nature of conflicts in the region;
- C. Aware of the threat of military interventions in governance process through frequent overthrow of governments which results in general instability and deaths of citizens;
- D. Deeply concerned about the existence and growth of Militia groups and ex-combatants ¹ constantly being recruited as mercenaries to destabilise other member states;
- E. Observing that most conflicts in Africa are centred on the quest for power, status, values and resources;
- F. Fully alarmed by the proliferation of small arms in conflict and post conflict countries with the total number of guns being more than the total population's size as in the case of Somalia;
- G. Taking into account the effects of conflicts in Africa which includes loss of life, economic retrogression, displacement of both human and natural resources and the abuse of fundamental human rights;
- H. Noting with regret that the youth are mostly perpetrators of crime and conflict and also recruited during wars as child soldiers or mercenaries;
- I. Considering that the engagement of young persons in armed conflicts has disastrous psychological and emotional effect on their lives during and after the conflicts;
- J. Recognising that peace building is a process that require concerted and broad support from all actors;

¹ Illegal Armed groups, States (e.g. M23 in DRC, Al Shaba , Democratic Liberation Forces of Rwanda (FDLR);

1. Calls on the AU to:
 - a. to provide decisive leadership and interventions in conflicts on the African continent;
 - b. quickly respond to conflicts in member countries before they escalate into war,
 - c. involve the various youth focused Civil Society Organizations (CSOs²) in its continental peace building processes,
 - d. avoid lumping youth-focused CSOs with the institutionally bigger CSOs in order not to suppress specific concerns of the youth;
2. Calls on member states to:
 - a. involve social stakeholders in conflict resolution by creating education on peace building programs (civic education³),
 - b. adopt and initiate early warning systems like zone mapping, citizen alerts/vigilantes, rapid responds signals amongst others to detect conflict threats,
 - c. inculcate peace building in the educational curriculum,
 - d. initiate de-mining⁴ actions in post war countries to prevent further loss of lives and programs that re-integrate and provide support for actors and victims of conflicts,
 - e. re-integrate ex-combatants into the country through:
 - i. organise of counselling and guidance sessions on peace and justice programs for ex-combatants and community members by the government,
 - ii. encouraging self-surviving techniques in agriculture and basic livelihood skills to ex-combatants by CSOs;
3. Further request the UN, AU and Regional Economic Communities (RECs⁴) to adopt a participatory approach in:
 - a. involving the local people found in conflict areas in decision making,
 - b. supporting the participation of women in peace-building and their involvement on negotiation tables;
4. Calls upon Member States of the AU and Africa's Development partners to increase and release funding timeously for regional and in-country peace keeping activities.
5. Encourages more CSOs to initiate innovative practices such as the use of videos, articles and local dramas at various social institutions⁵ to inform public about conflict and peacebuilding processes;

² Civil Society Organisations are actors distinct and separate from the government but compliment governments activities and interventions.

³ Involves peace building educational programs aimed at teaching cultural norms and social protocols

⁴ Regional Economic Councils are the regional blocks in Africa - ECOWAS, SADC and so on.

6. Endorses more conferences and cross- cultural exchange programs like AYGC to be organised by youth groups, communities and CSOs to help cross cultural understanding and mentorship among the youth on the continent;
7. Supports that all perpetrators of crimes and conflicts are held accountable and brought to justice by the governments,
8. Call upon AU to establish an independent Court of Justice to deal with perpetrators of heinous crimes and human rights abuses noting that justice and fairness are critical to conflict management and peace building;
9. Calls on the youth:
 - a. to channel their energies into the formal and informal education
 - b. especially cadres and political foot soldiers to be involved in reconciliation and peace building activities instead of being perpetrators of violence,
 - c. to take active steps to be involved in the peace building and conflict resolution processes in conflict prone countries and non-conflict prone areas

⁵ These includes churches, schools and communities

General Assembly

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Session Board (President with Vice Presidents)



Visually impaired delegate (left) defending a motion



A delegate reading a motion



A cross section of conference delegates



Open debate



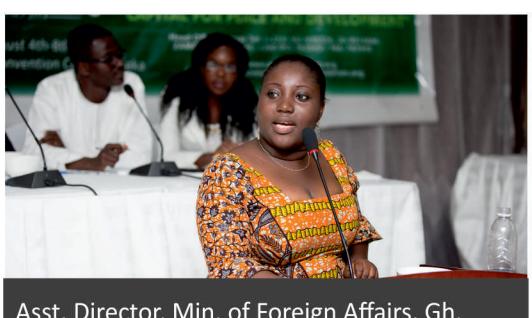
Address by YBF Country Director



Rep. from African Inst. of Sanitationand Waste Management

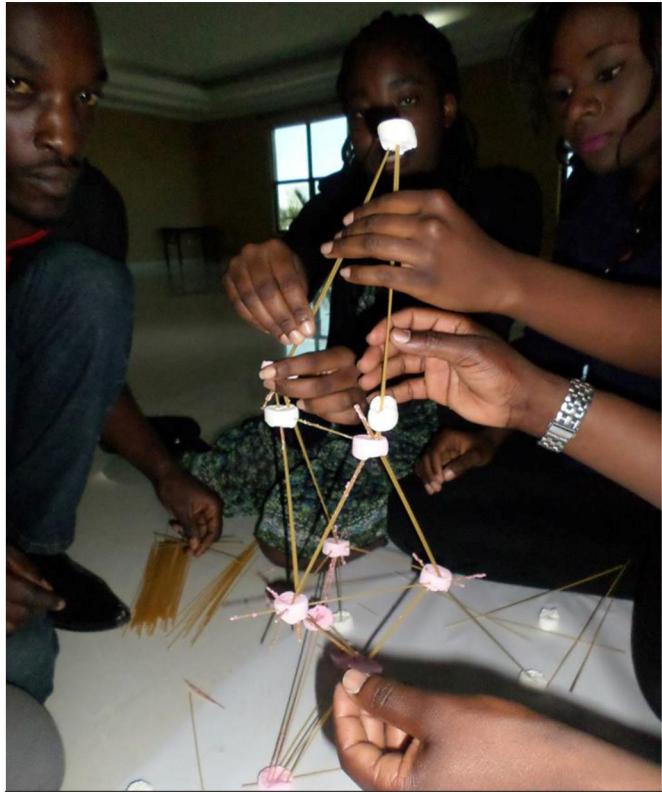


YBF Programs Manager doing a pre-General Assembly briefing



Asst. Director, Min. of Foreign Affairs, Gh.

Team Building & Committee Work



Delegates Building a tower with spaghetti and marshmallows



The Spider web challenge



The trust walk



Committee Expert Session with Prof. Lumumba



Committee work



Committee Expert Session with Mr. Seth Oteng



Committee work



A. Interactive Session with Dr. Kenneth Kaunda, first President of Zambia

B. Conference attendance by His Worship Mulenga Sata, host Mayor and Lusaka city Mayor



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
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